

WATER RIGHTS

Resource Contact: Coordination & Hydrology Section

Effective Date: 10-23-90

Revised: 10-23-90

References: Chapter 90.03 RCW
Chapter 90.44 RCW
Chapter 508-12 WAC

Purpose: To ensure statewide consistency, conformity with state law, and equality of service to the public in the administration of water rights.

Application: This policy applies to all applications to appropriate water and applications for change of water right received pursuant to Chapter 90.03 and 90.44 RCW.

1. Administration of applications will be consistent statewide

To ensure conformity with state law, equality of service to the public, and consistency between regions all applications to appropriate water and applications for change of water right will be processed in accordance with the procedure on water rights processing (PRO-1000).

2. Processing applications is region specific

Procedural differences exist among the regions in the processing of applications to appropriate water and applications for change of water right. These differences exist because of historical work patterns and expertise of the personnel. Procedural differences are hereby authorized, as long as regional procedures are in agreement with and further the purposes of this policy.

Hedia Adelsman
Program Manager
Water Resources Program

Special Note: These policies and procedures are used to guide and ensure consistency among water resources program staff in the administration of laws and regulations. These policies and procedures are not formal administrative regulations that have been adopted through a rule-making process. In some cases, the policies may not reflect subsequent changes in statutory law or judicial findings, but they are indicative of the department's practices and interpretations of laws and regulations at the time they are adopted. If you have any questions regarding a policy or procedure, please contact the department.